

JAMES E. RISCH
GOVERNOR



Karen A. McGee
Chair

Steve Ahrens
Vice Chair

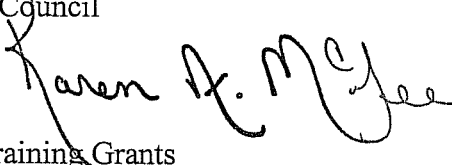
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 West Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

TRANSMITTAL # 4

MEMORANDUM

September 11, 2006

TO: Workforce Development Council
FROM: Karen A. McGee, Chair 
SUBJECT: Community-Based Job Training Grants

ACTION REQUESTED: Information only

BACKGROUND:

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) solicited proposals in support of its *Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED)* initiative. The most recent solicitation was for *Community-Based Job Training Grants*. Proposals were solicited primarily from community colleges and post-secondary technical training institutions. \$125 million was appropriated in FY 2006 for Community-Based Job Training Grants. Individual community and technical colleges, community college districts, state community college systems and One-Stop Career Centers were eligible to apply. ETA anticipated making approximately 75 individual awards, ranging from \$500,000 to \$2 million each.

Applicants were required to propose a combination of capacity building and training activities targeted at local high-growth/high-demand industries in the context of a regional economy. Proposed capacity building strategies are expected to address significant barriers that impede the ability of the community college, or in the case of areas with no community college, the community, to meet local industry demand for workforce training. Training activities must lead to college credit or an appropriate credential.

Applicants had to demonstrate that projects will be developed and implemented in the context of a strategic partnership that includes business and industry, the workforce investment system and the continuum of education, including the K-12 education system, adult education and four-year colleges and universities. Applications were due August 29, 2006.

Five applications were submitted by Idaho schools. Grant awards are expected to be announced later this fall. Attached is a summary of the proposals submitted by Idaho schools. As Council Chair, I signed letters of support for each of these projects on behalf of the Council. I intend to ask the Executive Committee to develop a process and criteria for submitting letters of support in the future. I believe this would improve the process and assure that projects supported by the council are consistent with our goals.

Contacts: Primary: Cheryl Brush, (208) 332-3570, ext 3313
 Secondary: Leandra Burns, (208) 332-3570, ext 3327

Attachment

North Idaho College – Workforce Training Center

Project Name: The Lean Enterprise Partnership

Key Project Partners: Jobs Plus; local employer advisory group; Idaho TechHelp; One-Stop system

Objectives:

Introduce and establish principles and techniques of lean manufacturing to the North Idaho employer community. Sponsor structured on-the-job training and customized training for workers in lean techniques.

Lewis-Clark State College

Project Name: Associate of Arts in Dental Hygiene

Key Project Partners: Lane Community College (Oregon); area dentists; One-Stop system

Objectives:

Meet a critical regional need for trained dental hygienists by connecting with Lane Community College's long distance learning program in dental hygiene.

Boise State College – Seland College of Applied Technology

Project Name: Advanced Manufacturing Skilled Worker Recruitment and Training Initiative for southwest Idaho

Key Project Partners: Canyon-Owyhee School Services Agency; Welding and Metals Fabrication Business/Industry Council; Boise Valley Economic Partnership; College Technical Advisory Committee member companies; One-Stop system

Objectives:

1. Increase public awareness about the career opportunities for skilled workers in the manufacturing industry in southwest Idaho and the state. Specific strategies include:
 - Develop workshops for high school students, school counselors and caseworkers to increase awareness of manufacturing skills and job opportunities in southwest Idaho.
 - Develop marketing plan designed to enhance the image of manufacturing in southwest Idaho and educate students, parents and adult learners of the different opportunities.
2. Enhance the quality and availability of skilled worker education and training throughout southwest Idaho. Strategies include:
 - Enhance curriculum and update college laboratory equipment for existing Manufacturing Systems Technology Certificate and Associate of Applied Science Degree programs.
 - Develop Virtual Pre-Engineering Labs in four remote rural high schools;
 - Develop outreach lab and facility at high school in western border of service area;

College of Southern Idaho

Project Name: The Changing Face of Agriculture; Development of the Agricultural Science Technician Program

Key Partners: Idaho Dairyman's Association; local K-12 School Districts; Project Advisory Council; One-Stop System

Objectives:

- Development of curriculum for the Agricultural Science Technician (AST) program in a general "2 + 2" model as well as short-term 2-day certification modules; secure equipment needed for the program (Goal 1)
- Integrate AST program with the Idaho Animal Industries Environmental, Teaching and Research Center (Goal 2)
- Develop and implement an outreach/career awareness program to promote AST to area school districts and Idaho dairy industry partners (Goal 3)
- Implement a career lattice for the AST program (Goal 4)

Idaho State University – College of Technical Education

Project Name: Energy Systems Technology and Education Center

Key Partners: Idaho National Laboratory; Nida Corp.; Idaho Power; AREVA Corp.; Entergy Corp.; Washington Group International; Idaho Tech Prep; Regional Coordinating Council; Idaho Migrant Council; Inspiring Girls Now in Technology Evolution; Partners for Prosperity; and One-Stop system

Objectives:

- Develop skill training programs that meet industry needs as well as further the development of the Energy Systems Technology Center.
- Teach energy industry-required skills for Instrumentation and Control, Electrical and Mechanical Technicians.
- Create a series of programs linked with industry and community partners to inform, prepare and educate students in the K-12 system for entry into post-secondary engineering technician education.
- Create a fully functional energy generation laboratory equipped to teach skills across the energy technician spectrum, rather than a single concept area.